

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 04270 280827Z
ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
-----118178 280829Z /23

Z O 280756Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV FLASH
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM FLASH
SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8939
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE
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S E C R E T BEIRUT 4270

EXDIS DISTRIBUTE AS NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MILI, PEPR, MASS, IS, LE
SUBJ: ISRAELI MILITARY SUPPLIES FOR LEBANESE CHRISTIANS

REF: JERSUALEM 2037

1. WE BELIEVE FIGURE OF 200 SYRIAN TANKS IN VICINITY OF BEIRUT IS PROBABLY PRETTY CLOSE TO WHAT IS AVAILABLE IN IMMEDIATE AREA. TEN TANKS CHRISTIANS HOLD ARE MOSTLY JUNK. ADDITION OF TWELVE MORE SUPER SHERMANS IS NOT GOING TO MAKE ALL THAT MUCH DIFFERENCE TO BALANCE OF MILITARY POWER, BUT WILL BE SIGNIFICANT SHOT IN ARM TO MORALE OF MILITIA IN BEIRUT, FOLLOWING ON HEELS OF BEGIN'S DECLARATION OF JULY 26. IT WILL ENCOURAGE THEM TO CONTINUE THEIR PROVOCATIONS OF THE SYRIANS RESULTING IN FURTHER BOMBARDMENTS OF CHRISTIAN AREAS.

2. ONCE MORE FOR THE RECORD. CHRISTIANS ARE NOT IN DANGER OF ANNIHILATION. THEY HAVE PROVOKED A FIGHT AND INNOCENT CIVILIANS ARE PAYING THE PRICE. IT IS 1860 ALL OVER AGAIN, WHEN THE MARONITES PROVOKED THE DRUZE INTO SLAUGHTERING THEM.

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3. USUN 3041 JUST RECEIVED. COULD NOT AGREE MORE.
PARKER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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